

Mansfield Commission on Aging Minutes
9:30 AM – Senior Center
Monday, December 14, 2009

PRESENT: M.Thatcher, J. Scottron, C. Pellegrine, T. Rogers, Emile Poirier (Guest), K. Doeg, W. Bigl, Trisha Lagasse (guest), A. Holinko, T. Quinn (Chair), J. Quarto, C. Phillips, P. Richardson (staff), J. Brubacher, J. Adamcik, S. Gordon, K. Grunwald (staff),
REGRETS: None

- I. **Call to Order:** Chair T. Quinn called the meeting to order at 9:30 AM.
- II. **Appointment of Recording Secretary:** K. Grunwald agreed to take minutes for the meeting.
- III. **Acceptance of Minutes:** The minutes of the **November 9** meeting were accepted as written.
- IV. **Correspondence** – Chair and Staff: none.

V. **New Business**

A. Triad Program: Trisha Lagasse from People's Bank provided an overview of what a Triad is; a coalition of Senior Citizens, Police and Business. Their current focus is on scams that are directed at seniors. She also explained that Triads start out with the formation of a SALT (Seniors and Law Enforcement Together) Council, which initiates and coordinates that Triad program. The goal is to reduce crime amongst the elderly, and it is tailored to individual community needs. They need volunteers from the senior community and local businesses to function effectively. Examples: Yellow Dot Program (vehicles)- medications, emergency contacts, other information; Purse Patrol (awareness program); Uniform Program, Identity Theft; Awareness of Scams. This is a national community policing initiative that brings volunteers together. Trisha would be willing to be a member of the SALT Council and would assist in getting the group started. People's Bank would take ownership for the sponsorship of the program and assume any costs. W. Bigl has spoken to several officials in Town who support this, and he asked for the support and recommendation of the COA to bring this to the Town Council. He will be seeking the support of the MSCA as well. C. Pellegrine feels that there are several needs that seniors have that could be addressed by this. She asked if the SALT Council could participate in something like the Senior Expo? This could be done, but because it is regional other localities could form their own councils as well.

C. Pellegrine moved that the COA support the proposal for the formation of a Triad Program that develops a SALT Council for the Town of Mansfield. K. Doeg asked how prominent the association is between the Triad and People's Bank; is this a way of soliciting business from seniors? Questions were also asked if there are other banks supporting this type of program; are there any "strings" attached? P. Richardson sees this as a legitimate program that supports the community. The motion passed unanimously.

- B. "Other": none.

VI. Optional Reports on Services/Needs of Town Aging Populations

A. Health Care Services

Wellness Center and Wellness Program – P. Richardson reported that the Social Work position has been posted, resumes have been received, and interviews will be starting. Other health services are being provided as previously. Dr. Babcock has decided that he will no longer be doing skin cancer screening.

B. Social, Recreational and Educational

Senior Center – P. Richardson distributed copies of her monthly report. Both the Veteran's Day and Thanksgiving programs were full houses; the Shredding Day was very successful. Other activities are included in the report.

Senior Center Association – T. Rogers distributed the proposed revisions to the bylaws. The Executive Board will act on these proposed changes at their January meeting, with a recommendation to the full membership. The Association will vote on this at the March meeting. J. Brubacher announced that the chorus will be performing this week at the Senior Center, and invited all to attend. Sue Spak is now the Director of the Chorus.

C. Housing-

Wrights Way: J. Adamcik reported that there are concerns from residents of Wright's Way about the possible loss of P. Richardson as Coordinator.

Jensen's Park: W. Bigl reported that they are planning for their holiday party. Emil Corrier attended today's meeting to consider joining as a representative of Jensen's.

Glen Ridge: J. Scottron reported that they are holding a coffee hour on Wednesdays.

D. Related Town and Regional Organizations:

Advisory Committee on the Needs of Persons with Disabilities: K. Grunwald provided an update on the work of this Committee. T. Quinn suggested that the group be invited to meet with the COA.

VII. Old Business

A. Long Range Plan for 2007- 2010: T. Quinn states that the council will need to begin to look at revising this.

B. Sub-Committee Report: New Senior Center- W. Bigl reported for the Senior Center building committee; they are waiting to see what position the Town Council will take.

C. Other: C. Pellegrine asked about the status of a letter of commendation to Jean Kenny. T. Quinn will be writing this. K. Doeg asked about who is filling her position until it is filled? K. Grunwald explained that he and other staff are filling in.

T. Quinn wished all a happy holiday season.

C. Pellegrine acknowledged T. Quinn's contributions to the music program at Windham High School.

VIII. **Adjournment**

The meeting adjourned at 10:23 AM.

Next meeting: **Monday, January 11, 2009** at 9:30 AM at the Senior Center

Respectfully submitted,

Kevin Grunwald